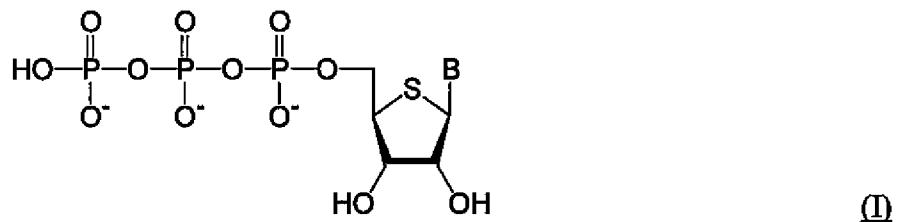


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

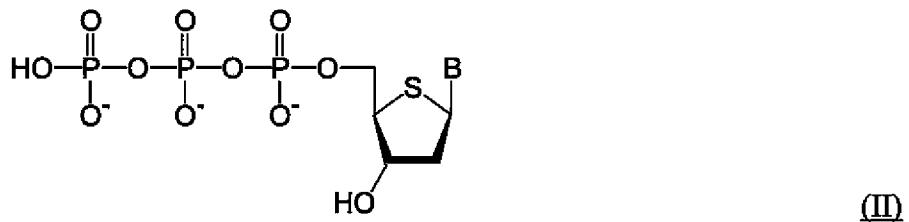
**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula I:



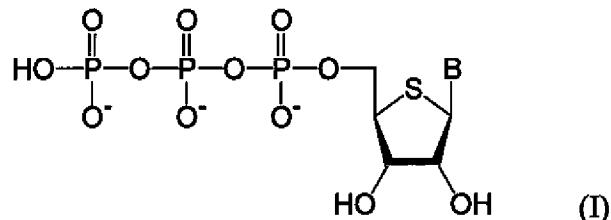
{wherein wherein B is a nucleobase selected from the group consisting of adenine, guanine, cytosine, ~~uracil~~ and ~~hypoxanthine~~ hypoxanthine.

2. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula II:



{wherein B' wherein B is a nucleobase selected from the group consisting of adenine, guanine, cytosine, ~~thymine~~, ~~uracil~~ and ~~hypoxanthine~~ hypoxanthine.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for synthesizing a compound of formula I:



[wherein wherein B is a nucleobase selected from the group consisting of adenine, guanine, cytosine, ~~uracil~~ and ~~hypoxanthinehypoxanthine,~~

said method comprising reacting a compound of formula III:



[wherein wherein B is a nucleobase selected from the group consisting of adenine, guanine, cytosine, ~~uracil~~ and hypoxanthine, and each of R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> is, independently a protecting group of a hydroxyl group} group

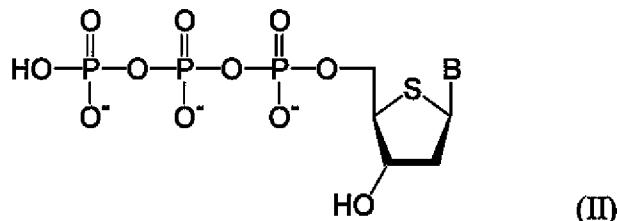
with a compound of formula IV:



reacting the resulting intermediate with pyrophosphoric acid; and

conducting iodo-oxidation, hydrolysis and deprotection to obtain the compound of formula I.

4. (Currently Amended) A method for synthesizing a compound of formula II:



[wherein wherein B is a nucleobase selected from the group consisting of adenine, guanine, cytosine, ~~thymine, uracil and hypoxanthine~~ hypoxanthine, said method comprising reacting a compound of formula V:



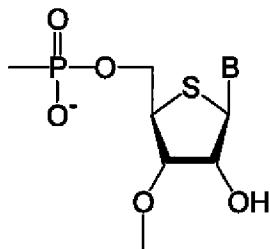
[wherein wherein B is a nucleobase selected from the group consisting of adenine, guanine, cytosine, ~~thymine, uracil and hypoxanthine~~, and R<sub>2</sub> is a protecting group of a hydroxyl group] group

with a compound of formula IV:



reacting the resulting intermediate with pyrophosphoric acid; and  
conducting iodo-oxidation, hydrolysis and deprotection to obtain the compound of formula II.

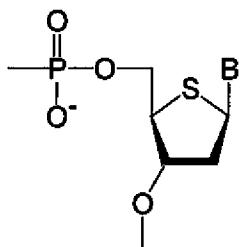
5. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an oligonucleotide containing at least one nucleoside unit of formula VI:



(VI)

[wherein wherein B is a nucleobase selected from the group consisting of adenine, guanine, cytosine, ~~uracil~~ and ~~hypoxanthine~~] hypoxanthine,  
comprising: conducting RNA chain elongation reaction with RNA synthetase in the presence of the compound of claim 1 or the compound produced by the method according to ~~claim 3~~.

6. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an oligonucleotide containing at least one nucleotide unit of formula VII:



(VII)

[wherein wherein B is a nucleobase selected from the group consisting of adenine, guanine, cytosine, thymine, ~~uracil~~ and ~~hypoxanthine~~] hypoxanthine,  
comprising: conducting DNA chain elongation reaction with DNA synthetase in the presence of the compound of claim 2 or the compound produced by the method according to ~~claim 4~~.